National Stage of PCT/ 003/012355 Attorney Docket No. B1180/20035 Preliminary Amendment Dated April 20, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A cryostorage device-(100) comprising:
 at least one data storage device, (200) and
 at least one sample receptacle device-(300) with at least one sample chamber (301, 302,
 ete) for the uptake of a suspension sample, the at least one sample chamber-(301, 302,
 ete.) being connected to the at least one data storage device-(200) and having an longstretchedelongated, hollow shape that extends from an inlet end-(320) over a
 predetermined length to an outlet end-(330), characterized in that
 wherein the at least one sample chamber-(301, 302, etc.) is attached to the at least one
 data storage device-(200) in a flexible and movably hanging manner.
- 2. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one sample chamber (301, 302, etc.) has the form of is a hollow cylinder, a hollow cone, a pipe, a tube, or a hollow needle.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according <u>claim 1</u>to any of the preceding <u>claims</u>, wherein the at least one sample chamber (301, 302, etc.) consists of a flexible, bendable material.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to <u>claim 1 any of the preceding</u> elaims, wherein the at least one sample chamber (301, 302, etc.) is provided with <u>at least</u> one <u>of</u> a sensor, in particular a temperature sensor, and/or cooling surfaces.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to <u>claim 1</u>-any of the preceding <u>elaims</u>, wherein the <u>at least one</u> data storage device (200) comprises at least one data storage (210) with a housing (310), <u>the housing being connected</u> with <u>which</u> the <u>at least one</u> sample receptacle device (300) is connected.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to claim 5, wherein the <u>at least one</u> data storage device (200) comprises a multiplicity of data storages (210, 220, 230, 240) that are attached along the length of the at least one sample chamber (301, 302, etc.).
- 7. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to <u>claim 1 any of the preceding elaims</u>, wherein thea cross-sectional dimension of the at least one sample chamber (301) varies along itsa length of the at least one sample chamber, so that at least one subchamber (350) with a cross-sectional dimension that is larger than the cross-sectional dimensions of the inlet and outlet openings (320, 330) is formed provided.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to <u>claim 1 any of the preceding elaims</u>, wherein the <u>at least one sample receptacle device (300)</u> comprises a plurality of sample chambers (301, 302, etc.) that are connected with one another at their exterior walls, so that an integral, flexible sample chamber block (340) is formed provided.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to <u>claim 1 any of the preceding</u> elaims, wherein a labeling device (600) is provided that comprises <u>at least one of a labeling layer (610)</u> on <u>the at least one data storage device (200)</u> and/or labeling elements (620) that are placed on the <u>at least one sample receptacle device (300)</u>.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to <u>claim lany of the preceding</u> elaims, wherein an attachment device—(550) is provided, with which the at least one sample chamber (301, 302, etc.) is attached to the <u>at least one</u> data storage device—(200).
- 11. (Currently Amended) The cryostorage device according to claim 12, wherein the attachment device (550) comprises strips that are arranged individually or as a bundle, each of the strips having a first and a second end with a sample chamber attached to one the first end and the other end attached to the at least one data storage device attached to the second end(200).
- 12. (Currently Amended) A method for <u>storingthe storage of</u> at least one suspension sample in a low-temperature state, comprising the steps:
 - [[- uptake of]]uptaking the at least one suspension sample in at least one sample chamber (301, 302, etc.) of a cryostorage device (100) according to claim lany of the

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preceding claims, and

- [[- transfer of]]transferring the <u>at least one</u> suspension sample into a low-temperature state by positioning at least a part of the cryostorage device in a cryo-medium.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the uptake of the at least one suspension sample in the at least one sample chamber occurs by uptaking comprises dipping the at least one sample chamber—(301, 302, etc.) with an inlet end (320) in a sample reservoir—(700) and transferring of the suspension sample as a result of a reduced pressure applied at thea corresponding outlet end—(330) or of capillary forces.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 12—or—13, wherein data that comprise the identification of the at least one suspension sample, measured data that were obtained from the suspension sample, reference data of reference samples, and/or behavior data about properties of the suspension sample over the course of theduring storage in the low-temperature state are stored in the at least one data storage device (200).
- 15. (Currently Amended) The method according to any of the claimsclaim 12-to 14, wherein at least one partial sample is detached from the at least one sample chamber-(301, 302, etc.) in the low-temperature state by mechanical separation.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein during the mechanical separation a local heating of the respective sample chamber in thea vicinity of the at least one partial sample that is to be separated or a separation at the attachment device (500) occurs.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The method according to any of the claimsclaim 12-to 15, wherein at least one of the inlet and/or outlet ends (320, 330) of the at least one sample chamber (301, 302, etc.) are is sealed by clamping, plugging, sealing, or a part of the at least one suspension sample.